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February 18, 1998

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, DC 20231

SUBJECT: Applicant: Eyles, Donald  
Serial No: 08/943,742  
Filed: October 3, 1997  
For: AUTOMATICALLY EXECUTING DECISIONAL  
RULES  
Examiner: Downs  
Group: 2309  
Docket No: DR-232J

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT in the subject application.

If for any reason this PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT is found to be INCOMPLETE, or if at any time it appears that a TELEPHONE CONFERENCE with counsel would help advance prosecution, please telephone the undersigned or his associate, , collect in Waltham, Massachusetts (781) 890-5678.

If any payment during prosecution is found to be incorrect, please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to my Deposit Account No. 09-0002. A copy of this letter is enclosed for use by the Finance Branch in the event that it is necessary to make any charge or credit to my deposit account.

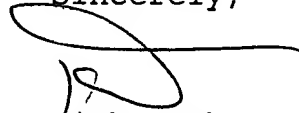
In addition, pursuant to Rule 1.136(a)(3), the office is hereby authorized to treat any future reply requiring an extension of time as incorporating a request therefor. Also, any request or Petition for an Extension of Time notwithstanding an inadvertent reference in the Petition to a shorter period of time is to be treated as requesting the appropriate length of time.

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Page 2

Kindly acknowledge receipt of the foregoing by returning the enclosed self-addressed postcard.

Sincerely,



Kirk Teska

KT:nm

Enclosures: ▶copy of transmittal letter  
▶Preliminary Amendment